Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3470

UNCLASSIFIED ASUNCION 02815

EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: PEPR, SHUM, PA

SUBJECT: ALLEGATIONS OF U.S. INTERVENTION IN PARAGUAY.

- 1. UNSIGNED "HOY" EDITORIAL PAGE COMMENTARY JULY 11 CHARGED THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION IS INTERVENING IN PARAGUAY'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. OBVIOUSLY INSPIRED BY THE GOVERNMENT, THE ARTICLE LISTS EIGHT POINTS WHICH LEAD TO ITS CONCLUSION THAT WE ARE INTERVENING IMPROPERLY. THESE ARE:
- (A) BLOCKING AND OPPOSING CREDITS IN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.
- (B) INVITING AN OPPOSITION LEADER THROUGH A STATE DEPARTMENT-CONTROLLED ORGANIZATION -- WOLA -- AND GRANTING HIM AN AMERICAN PASSPORT TO FACILITATE HIS JOURNEY.
- (C) HIS EXTRAORDINARY RECEPTION BY STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS, MEETINGS WITH CONGRESSMEN AND TELEVISION COVERAGE.
- (D) HIS FREE ACCESS TO THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY.
- (E) THE OAS RESOLUTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN PARAGUAY WHICH AMOUNTS TO AN UNACCEPTABLE JUDGING OF PARAGUAY'S INTERNAL UNCLASSIFIED

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POLITICAL SITUATION.

(F) THE EMBASSY'S INVITING ALL OPPOSITION LEADERS TO THE JULY 4TH RECEPTION BUT NOT INVITING THE PRESIDENT OR THE MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTY'S FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

- (G) THE AMBASSADOR'S OPEN AND PUBLICLY DEMONSTRATED INTEREST IN LAINO'S DETENTION WHICH GOES BEYOND THE LIMITS OF CORRECT DIPLOMATIC PRACTICE, HIS APPROACH TO THIS FAMILY AND HIS EXPRESSIONS OF CONDOLENCE TO THEM.
- (H) THE AMBASSADOR'S UNCONCEALED INTEREST IN THE LIBERATION OF DETAINEES AND EVEN PERSONS UNDER TRIAL WHOSE FATE SHOULD BE DECIDED BY COMPETENT NATIONAL AUTHORITY.
- 2. ONLY THE FIRST AND LAST POINTS CONTAIN ELEMENTS OF TRUTH. THE REST ARE EITHER DISTORTIONS OR OUTRIGHT LIES, E.G., THAT THE EMBASSY GAVE LAINO A PASSPORT TO TRAVEL TO THE U.S. OR THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE WAS NOT INVITED TO THE JULY 4TH RECEPTION. THE ARTICLE, HOWEVER, DOES PROVIDE SOME INSIGHT INTO THE PERVERTED MANNER IN WHICH AT LEAST A PART OF PARAGUAYAN OFFICIALDOM VIEWS THE U.S.'S ROLE IN PARAGUAY.

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